

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A medical information management system comprising:
an information management center adapted to receive and manage medical information associated with a patient;
a hand-held patient appliance having an input/output device, a processor, and a memory, wherein a patient interacts with the patient appliance, via the input/output device according to a patient tailored presentation that is generated by the processor based on data stored in the memory, to provide medical information to the patient appliance, review information stored in the patient appliance, or both;
means for selectively establishing a first communication link between the information management center and a patient appliance assigned to a patient whose medical information is being managed by the information management center for communicating data from the patient appliance to the information management center or from the information management center to the patient appliance;
means for selectively establishing a second communication link between the information management center and a healthcare professional terminal of a healthcare professional supervising a patient whose medical information is being managed by the information management center, wherein interaction between the healthcare professional terminal and the information management center via the second communication link is governed by a healthcare professional-management center protocol so that a healthcare professional interacting with the information management center via the healthcare professional terminal is provided with a healthcare professional tailored presentation different from the patient tailored presentation; and
means for selectively establishing a third communication link between the information management center and a third party terminal of a third party authorized by a patient

whose medical information is being managed by the information management center to allow such a third-party access to at least a portion of the medical information associated with such a patient for reviewing same, wherein interaction between such a third party terminal and the information management center via the third communication link is governed by a third party-management center protocol, so that a third party interacting with the information management center via the third party terminal to review the medical information associated with a patient is provided with a third-party tailored presentation different from the patient tailored presentation and different from the healthcare professional tailored presentation.

2. (Original) A medical information system according to claim 1, wherein the first communication link, the second communication link, or the third communication link is an internet based communication link, a telephone based communication link, a LAN communication link, or a WAN communication link.

3. (Original) A medical information system according to claim 1, wherein the information management center includes:

means for periodically receiving patient information provided by the patient appliance via the first communication link;

means for processing the periodically received patient information; and

means for automatically providing a notification to at least one of a patient, a healthcare professional, and a third party responsive to one of 1) a patient failing to provide the patient information, and 2) the patient information falling outside a predetermined threshold.

4. (Original) A medical information system according to claim 1, wherein the information management center includes:

means for preparing a summary of the medical information managed by the information management center; and

means for providing the summary to at least one of 1) a patient via the first communication link, 2) a healthcare professional via the second communication link, and 3) an authorized third party via the third communication link.

5. (Original) A medical information system according to claim 1, wherein the information management center includes means for providing reminders to at least one of a patient, a healthcare professional, and an authorized third party instructing a patient to at least one of 1) comply with a prescribed therapy or treatment, and 2) perform a monitoring function.

6. (Original) A medical information system according to claim 1, wherein the information management center includes a database adapted to store at least one 1) general medical information not specific to the medical information associated with a patient and 2) location information indicating where such general medication information is located, and wherein at least one of a patient and a third party can access at least one of the general medical information and the location information via the first communication link and the second communication link, respectively.

7. (Original) A medical information system according to claim 1, wherein the third party tailored presentation, the patient tailored presentation or the healthcare professional party tailored presentation includes a first field in which the patient information is displayed and a second field in which an advertisement is displayed.

8. (Original) A medical information system according to claim 1, at least one the means for establishing a first communication link, means for establishing a second communication link, and means for establishing a third communication link includes a voice synthesizing capability so that information can be communicated orally via at least one of the first, second, and third communication links.

9. (Original) A medical information system according to claim 1, wherein at least one the means for establishing a first communication link, means for establishing a second communication link, and means for establishing a third communication link also allows for an associated patient, healthcare professional, and third party to select a communication medium by which information is provided.

10. (Original) A medical information system according to claim 1, wherein the patient appliance further comprises means for providing a positive pressure therapy to a patient.

11. (Currently amended) A method of managing medical information comprising:

providing an information management center adapted to receive and manage medical information associated with a patient;

providing a hand-held patient appliance having an input/output device, a processor, and a memory, so that a patient interacts with the patient appliance, via the input/output device according to a patient tailored presentation that is generated by the processor based on data stored in the memory, to provide medical information to the patient appliance, review information stored in the patient appliance, or both.

selectively establishing a first communication link between the information management center and the patient appliance assigned to a patient whose medical information is being managed by the information management center for communicating data from the patient appliance to the information management center or from the information management center to the patient appliance;

selectively establishing a second communication link between the information management center and a healthcare professional terminal of a healthcare professional supervising a patient whose medical information is being managed by the information management center, wherein interaction between the healthcare professional terminal and the

information management center via the second communication link is governed by a healthcare professional-information management center protocol so that a healthcare professional interacting with the information management center via the healthcare professional terminal is provided with a healthcare professional tailored presentation different from the patient tailored presentation; and

selectively establishing a third communication link between the information management center and a third party terminal of a third party authorized by a patient whose medical information is being managed by the information management center to allow such a third party access to at least a portion of the medical information associated with such a patient for reviewing same, wherein interaction between such a third party terminal and the information management center via the third communication link is governed by a third party-management center protocol so that a third party interacting with the information management center via the third party terminal to review the medical information associated with a patient is provided with a third-party tailored presentation different from the patient tailored presentation and different from the healthcare professional tailored presentation.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising:
periodically receiving, at the information management center, patient information via the first communication link;

processing the periodically received patient information; and
automatically providing a notification to at least one of a patient, a healthcare professional, and a third party responsive to one of 1) a patient failing to provide the patient information, and 2) the patient information falling outside a predetermined threshold.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising:
preparing a summary of the medical information managed by the information management center; and

providing the summary to at least one of 1) a patient via the first communication link, 2) a healthcare professional via the second communication link, and 3) an authorized third party via the third communication link.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising providing reminders to at least one of a patient, a healthcare professional, and an authorized third party instructing a patient to one of 1) comply with a prescribed therapy or treatment, and 2) perform a monitoring function.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising:
storing at least one 1) general medical information not specific to the medical information associated with a patient and 2) location information indicating where such general medication information is located;

providing a patient access to the general medical information and the location information via the first communication link; and

providing a third party access to the general medical information and the location information via the third communication link.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising providing a first field in which the patient information is displayed and a second field in which an advertisement is displayed in the third party tailored presentation, the patient tailored presentation or the healthcare professional party tailored presentation.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising providing the information management center with a voice synthesizing capability so that information can be communicated orally via at least one of the first, second, and third communication links.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising:
receiving a communication medium instruction from at least one of a patient via
the first communication link, a healthcare professional via the second communication link, and a
third party via the third communication link; and

communicating information to at least one of a patient, a healthcare professional,
and a third party via a communication medium designated by the communication medium
instruction.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising providing a
providing a positive pressure therapy to a patient via the patient appliance.

Claims 20-58. (Withdrawn).